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Bronx Museum of the Arts Announces the Opening of The Block Gallery

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(Courtesy: Bronx Museum)

The Bronx Museum of the Arts announced its new exhibition and artist workspace at 80 White Street in Lower Manhattan, which will be known as The Block Gallery. The name was selected to honor the late Bronx Museum Executive Director Holly Block and the gallery will welcome its first artist residents in January, 2019.

The new gallery space will be an expansion of AIM (Artist in the Marketplace), the museum's storied career development program for emerging artists in all five boroughs of New York City. It will serve as a community resource hub, featuring private workspaces, exhibition facilities, meeting rooms, and career management resources for alumni of the AIM program. The museum's AIM program will now serve 46 New York-based artists every year, with 36 first-time emerging artist fellows at the Bronx Museum and ten AIM alumni at "The Block" in lower Manhattan. The residency will host five artists every six months. The inaugural resident artists are Blanka Amezkua (AIM alumnus, 2008), Michael Paul Britto (2006),

Cecile Chong (2011), Sophia Dawson (2016), and Pacifico Silano (2013). In July, the second cohort will begin its residency: Onyedika Chuke (2012), Alicia Grullon (2012), Jessica Lagunas (2006), Jasmine Murrell (2016), and Shani Peters (2010).

“We are thrilled to be able to offer even more support to emerging artists by welcoming the first class of resident artists to The Block,” said Deborah Cullen, Executive Director of the Bronx Museum of the Arts. “The space was designed to further our mission of providing underrepresented New York-based artists the career development tools needed to succeed, and I am excited to see what our residents accomplish in this next level of our storied AIM program.”

“The relationship between 80 White Street’s steel reinforced foundation and AIM’s second home in Lower Manhattan inspired me to combine two vital parts of the building; its foundation and residents. As the piece occupies most of the entrance, the viewer is constantly interacting with it. When entering and exiting the building, the observer sees themselves, but much like light’s speed, it can never be fully captured and only appreciated in movement,” said Grimanesa Amoros, AIM alumni artist.

The Bronx Museum of the Arts is an internationally recognized cultural destination that presents innovative contemporary art exhibitions and education programs and is committed to promoting cross-cultural dialogues for diverse audiences.

The Block Gallery is a gift from Gerald Weinstein, General Hardware MFG., Inc., and Martin Weinstein and Tereza Liszka, who are longtime supporters of The Bronx Museum of the Arts.

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